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CICP Communicates

Colorado Indigent Care Program

CICP Staffing Changes

Congratulations to Greg Tanner has accepted the position of Controller for the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (the Department). Greg is no longer the Manager of the Safety Net Programs Section, but will continue to be a valuable asset to the program in his new position.

In addition, Chris Underwood has new responsibilities as the Director of State Programs and Federal Financing. In his position, Chris retains oversight of the CICP and Safety Net Programs Section. Until a new manager for the section is hired, Chris will serve as the Acting Manager.

Karen Talley joined the section in April as the Safety Net Programs Eligibility Specialist. Karen replaced Corinne Lamberson. Karen's background includes experience working with safety net programs as an enrollment specialist and reimbursement analyst. As the Safety Net Programs Eligibility Specialist, Karen is instrumental in training and disseminating information to the CICP providers and providing resolution to CICP client's issues.

Carol Rieder has moved to a new position in the Department, working on Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* outreach and enrollment. Carol will be missed by the Section; however, she continues to assist the Section until her replacement is hired.

Welcome to New Clinics

Custer County Medical Clinic located in Westcliffe, Colorado and Northwest Colorado Community Health Center located in Craig, Colorado are new CICP providers as of July 1, 2008.

Colorado Indigent Care Welcome Letter for New Clients

The Department is in the process of creating a Welcome to the Colorado Indigent Care Program letter for clients. The purpose of the welcome letter is to explain basic program information. The letter will serve as a tool for the clients assisting them in making informed decisions on seeking medical services. It will outline certain costs that the client should expect to incur. A draft of the welcome letter was discussed at the Stakeholder meeting in September. Any comments or ideas on the new letter are welcomed.

CICP Stakeholder Forum

The fourth CICP Stakeholder Forum meeting was held on September 19, 2008 from 1:30 – 5:00 pm in Downtown Denver. As always, a conference line was made available for those who could not attend the meeting in person and for CICP providers desired to listen in and provide feedback. An agenda and notes from the previous meeting are posted on the Department's Web site. If you would like to attend a future meeting by teleconference or in person, please e-mail cicpcorrespondence@state.co.us or call the provider line at 303- 866-2580 to obtain the meeting information.

FY 2008-09 CICP Provider Manual

Secheduled to be released in September, the following are significant changes in the FY 2008-09 CICP Provider Manual:

Z-Rating. Effective July 1, 2008 - The Z-Rating is no longer limited to homeless clients. The Z-Rating has been expanded to encompass clients who are at or below 40% of the Federal Poverty Limit and are homeless, living in trasitional housing residing with others, or recipients of Colorado's Aid to the Needy Disabled (AND) financial assistance program.

Modifications to the Emergency Application - Previously, use of the emergency application was restricted to one date of service in the emergency room only. Effective July 1, 2008, the emergency room application will now will also apply to any subsupent service attached to the emergency room episode; such as inpatient admittance.

Establishing lawful presence at the time of the application - All providers must establish lawful presence for the client at the time of CICP application. For detailed instructions on this process, please read the Eligibility Section of the Provider Manual, sections 6.09 -6.14.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Do we include an applicant's subsidy for housing as In-Kind income?
 - Answer: In-Kind income is the result of receiving room/board in exchange for monetary compensation. If a nonprofit organization is paying a portion of the applicant's rent, then this would not be considered in-kind income, however if this applicant is working and their compensation is offset by rent, that portion (rent), will be counted as In-Kind income.
- A client is deceased and the family refuses to come in and sign the CICP application. Is it recommended for the provider to determine indigence? May the provider sign the application?
 - Answer: If there is absolutely no other remedy and the deceased qualifies for CICP, the application may be completed and signed by the provider. However, CICP administration should be notified before this is done to discuss the circumstances. Provider's should always document anything outside the CICP manual guidelines and include any approval or correspondence with the CICP administration for auditing purposes.

• Is a person on parole eligible for CICP?

Answer: Parole is a status under which someone may be eligible for Medicaid or CICP. A parolee living in a halfway house may be eligible for CICP, but someone not officially on parole living in the same environment or confined involuntarily would not be eligible.

• How long does a patient have to apply for the CICP from the date of service?

Answer: The provider should attempt to contact the client no later than 45 days from the date of service. CICP applications can only be backdated 90 days. If the client has not completed the application before 90 days have lapsed, the services rendered will not be covered by CICP.

CICP Reimbursement Letters and Payments

The CICP makes several payments to providers including: Public Hospital payments, Rural Hospital payments, Health Care Services payments, Clinic payments, and Low-Income and High-Volume hospital payments. Separate notices for each payment that your facility qualifies for are sent to your CICP Financial and Contract contacts, resulting in numerous letters for many providers. The Department is working to consolidate these notices into as few letters as possible to reduce confusion. If you have questions about any letter you've received, please contact Nancy Dolson at nancy.dolson@state.co.us or 303- 866-3698.

Due to reimbursement rate negotiations with the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), notification of the FY 2008-09 CICP High-Volume and Low-Income hospital reimbursement and first quarter payments were delayed until September 8, 2008. The Department is committed to safeguarding payments to providers while maintaining the financial integrity of the CICP. We apologize for the inconvenience.

The Comprehensive Primary and Preventative Care (CPPC) Grants Program

The Department announced that it has awarded funding to ten health care providers for a total \$2,268,786 for FY 2008-09. Approximately \$800,000 has also been designated in 2008-2009 for continued funding of multi-year CPPC grants awarded in FY 2006-07 and FY 2007-08. The Comprehensive Primary and Preventative Care (CPPC) Grants Program provides funding to health care providers in order to expand primary and preventive services to Colorado's low-income residents. Since the first CPPC grant awards were made in April 2001, more than \$26.9 million has been disbursed to health care providers. This funding has succeeded in providing medical, dental, mental health and pharmaceutical services to at least 122,746 clients.

The application form for the previous year along with other pertinent documentation and notifications are available on the Department's website. Providers are encouraged to review the previous application forms in order to obtain an understanding of the program, qualification criteria for providers, and the application process. Information on the CPPC Grants Program can be obtained at: www.chcpf.state.co.us.

General Reminders

- The CICP has a designated email address for all provider eligibility inquiries: CICPCorrespondence@state.co.us. The purpose of the email address is to allow the Department to monitor the emails and ensure that they are responded to in a timely manner. In addition, it also allows other staff members to respond to inquiries when the Eligibility Specialist is out.
- The CICP Provider compliance audits are currently being reviewed and the Department is bringing all provider files up to date. If you have any questions regarding the audit process, deadlines for the completion of audits or billing questions, please contact Shirley Jones at (303) 866-5506 or Shirley.Jones@state.co.us.
- FY 2007-08 Final Data Reporting (for the period July 1, 2007 June 30, 2008) is due on October 31, 2008.

Safety Net Programs Staff

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